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ERPINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1959

Incorporating the

SURVEYOR AND SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

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ERPINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

DISTRICT HEALTH, WORKS & PLANS COMMITTEE

Chairman - Mr. J.S.Coltart.

Vice-Chairman - Mr. H.W. Moulton.

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Mr. O.T.H.Barker	Mr. G.T. Howard
Mr. C.W. Batt	Mr. J.C. Laws
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Miss R.E. Gurney	Mr. F.W. Syer
Mr. J. Hagen	Lord Walpole
Mr. W.J.Hayden	Mr. C.R. White

(The Committee meets on the Third Tuesday
after Council Meeting)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. P.G. Holt, M.B.. Ch.B.. D.P.H.

Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector:

Mr. G.L. Evatt, M.I.H.E.. F.F.A.S.. C.R.S.I..M.A.P.H.I..

Additional Public Health Inspector:

Mr. W.J.S. Pratt, C.S.I.B.. M.A.P.H.I..

ERPINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1959.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Erpingham Rural District Council,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Public Health Report for 1959. As my duties commenced in the latter half of the year, it is obvious that I cannot speak from first hand experience for the earlier months. I am, therefore, particularly grateful to Mr. Evatt and Mr. Pratt, the Public Health Inspectors, for their assistance and co-operation which I have received in making this report a complete record of the year's happenings.

Topography.

The Erpingham Rural District lies in North Norfolk, being bounded on the north by the sea and on the east, west and south by the Smallburgh, St. Faith's & Aylsham and Walsingham Districts.

The coast line of some twenty miles extends from Mundesley in the east to Cley in the west. As far as Weybourne it consists of sandy cliffs and beyond it of marshland protected by shingle beaches.

Inland the country is for the most part open with much variety of heath, woodland and land under cultivation and few natural barriers. The climate is bracing and the rainfall low.

General Statistics.

Area in acres	71,099.
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	19,800.
Number of inhabited dwellings ...	6,216.
Rateable value (at 1/4/1959) ...	£151,279.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£581.
No. of Parishes in District ...	44.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Live Births:</u>	Legitimate	127	113	240
	Illegitimate	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>
		<u>133</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>249</u>

This gives a birth rate of 12·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population (corrected 15·2) compared with a rate of 16·5 for England & Wales. 3·6% of the births were illegitimate.

Still Births: There was 1 male and 2 female still births and this total of 3 gives a rate of 11·9 per 1,000 births; the national figure is 20·7, the lowest ever recorded. There were no illegitimate still births.

Infant Mortality: Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

This gives an infant mortality rate of 28·1 per 1,000 live births, compared with the rate of 22·0 for England & Wales, the lowest figure on record.

Deaths: The number of deaths and their causes as recorded by the Registrar-General are shown below: -

Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
" other	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Hypertension with heart disease	..	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other disease of respiratory system	..	...	...	...	...	...	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	...	...	...	...	...	-
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>-</u>

VITAL STATISTICS (continued)

The total number of deaths is approximately the same as last year. Heart disease accounts for 40% of the total, whilst cancer was responsible for approximately 20%. This is in accordance with the national trend; these two groups of disease have become established as the leading causes of death in Britain today.

It is gratifying to note that there were no deaths from maternal causes and, apart from the 2 deaths caused by respiratory tuberculosis, no deaths from infectious conditions. The marked drop in accidental death from 9 to 4 is encouraging, as is the nil return for suicide.

The crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 11.8 as compared with 12.0 in 1958 and 11.9 in 1957.

The corrected death rate was 9.7 and the National rate 11.6.

Infectious Disease: Notifications received during the year are tabulated below: -

Parish	Meas- les.	Wh. Cough.	T.B. Pulm.	Food Pois.	Polio. (para)	Puer. Pyrexia.	Scar. Fever.	Menin- gitis.	Total.
Alby.		1							1
Aldborough							1		1
Antingham	3			4					7
Aylmerton	4								4
Baconsthorpe	1	10							11
Banningham	2								2
Beeston Regis	16								16
Bodham	1								1
Cley	9								9
Colby	4								4
Edgefield	7	4							11
Erpingham							1		1
Felbrigg	11								11
Hanworth	1								1
Hempstead	1	10							11
Holt	50	32	1				1		84
Hunworth	5								5
Itteringham							1		1
Kelling	10								10
Letheringsett, Glandford &									
Bayfield	10	1							11
Mundesley	10				1				11
Northrepps	3							1	4
Overstrand	6								6
Roughton	3	1							4
Runton.East	41					1	1		43
" West	26								26
Salthouse	2								2
Saxthorpe							4		4
Southrepps	16		1						17
Stody	2								2
Thorpe Market	3								3
Upper S'ham	3								3
Weybourne	2								2
Wolterton	1								1
Total	253	59	2	4	1	1	9	1	330

VITAL STATISTICS (contd.)

Infectious Diseases (contd.)

Disease	Age								Total
	Unknown	Under 1	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25+	
Sc. Fever				1	6	2			9
Wh. Cough		1	12	8	26	10	1	1	59
Measles	2	3	33	58	133	15	2	2	253
Meningitis			1						1
Food Poisoning			1		1			2	4
Puerperal Pyrexia							1		1
T.B. Pulmonary								2	2
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)								1	1
	2	4	52	67	166	27	4	8	330

The total of 330 notifications contrasts markedly with the 46 of 1958, but is not so different from 1957 (299). The main differences are represented by the incidence of measles which for the last three years was as follows: -

<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>
253	23	174

Four cases of food poisoning were reported but no dysentery cases.

Tuberculosis. After the reported 10 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in 1958 the notification received during this year is a great improvement. In addition to the two cases notified, there was 1 inward transfer, i.e. a known case of tuberculosis who has come to live in the district, so that the total number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year stood at 120, as follows: -

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
New cases	1	1	-	-	2
Inward transfers	1	-	-	-	1
No. of cases on Register at 31.12.'59.	57	45	7	11	120

B.C.G. Vaccination.

Heaf tests were carried out at Sheringham Secondary Modern School among children born in the years 1944, 1945 and 1946. Negative reactors were vaccinated with B.C.G.: of the 247 children eligible, 163 consent forms were returned by parents, giving an acceptance rate of 66%.

No. skin tested	151
No. found positive.. ...	16
No. found negative.. ...	125

VITAL STATISTICS (contd.)

Poliomyelitis. One case occurred in the district during the year. With the hot dry summer that was experienced in 1959 one would have expected a high incidence but in the whole administrative County of Norfolk only 3 paralytic cases occurred. I feel sure that the poliomyelitis vaccination programme has played a large part in producing this result and in that case the tremendous amount of work which has been put into this scheme has been well worth while. The number of persons vaccinated against the disease during 1959 are as shown below: -

Age or Category.

Two injec- tions r'd. in 1959	- 1 1959	1 1958	2 1957	3 1956	4 1955	5 1954	6 1953	7 1952	8 1951	9 1950	10 1949	11 1948	12 1947	13 1946	14 1945	15-25 1944-33	
	30	186	82	33	34	33	30	24	26	17	28	33	32	31	17	954	+

E.M.	G.P.	H.S.	A.S.	Total
153	1	31	1	1,776

The above figures relate to those who completed a course of two injections during the year in Area 2. Separate figures for Erpingham are not available. In addition 3,218 cases who had received the second injection at least seven months previously were given a third injection in 1959. The total number of persons vaccinated against poliomyelitis (three injections) since the inception of the scheme is as follows: -

Children born between 1955-58. 1943-54.		Young persons born between 1933-42.	Expectant Mothers.	Gen.Prac- titioners & their families.	Ambulance staff & their families.	Hospital staff & their families.	Total.
824	2947	264	146	30	16	114	4,341

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus. Immunisation against diphtheria is now usually combined with that against whooping cough and tetanus, so as to reduce the total number of injections required. As a prophylatic measure the value of inoculation against diphtheria is well proved and this disease, which only a few years ago was so common and so feared by every mother with young children, is now a rarity.

Because one does not now meet the disease and because it has tended to be "crowded out" by the more fashionable polio programme, the number immunised has been falling off recently. This trend will have to be reversed if we do not want a return of diphtheria and I am glad to report a small increase in the number inoculated during 1959, as follows: -

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Age at 31/12/59 i.e. born in year	-1 1959	1 1958	2 1957	3 1956	4 1955	5 1954	6 1953	7 1952	8 1951	9 1950	10 1949	11 1948	12 1947	13 1946	14 1945	Total under 15 years.
Total immun- ised in 1959	65	129	36	5	2	4	3	1	1	1	1	3	1	-	-	252
ditto Booster	-	-	1	-	-	3	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Total immun- ised bet- ween 1945-59	65	166	247	240	260	279	347	325	225	257	372	347	375	283	210	3,998
ditto Booster	-	-	1	-	1	3	10	10	8	45	131	169	284	276	220	1,158

The various antigens used were as follows: -

	<u>Primary.</u>	<u>Booster.</u>
Triple antigen (Diphtheria/Pertussis/Tetanus)	247	10
Combined antigen (Diphtheria/Pertussis)	5	-
Single antigen (Diphtheria only)	-	1
	<u>252</u>	<u>11</u>

Immunisation against Tetanus:

The following table relates to persons immunised against tetanus (excluding those protected with triple antigen) in Area No.2. during 1959:

Age at date of immunisation.	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	Over 15	Total
Tetanus toxoid only	2	23	105	127	257

Smallpox Vaccination: The number vaccinated is almost the same as last year.

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 - 14	15 and over	Total
Primary	192	8	2	-	2	4	24	232
Re-vaccination	-	3	1	-	4	14	85	107

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE.

For the purpose of carrying out the services provided by the Norfolk County Council under the National Health Service Act of 1946 the Cromer Urban District, the Sheringham Urban District and the Erpingham Rural District are combined to form County Area No.2. These services include midwifery, the care of mothers and young children, vaccination and immunisation, home nursing, mental health, prevention of illness (care and after-care), home helps and the ambulance service.

Maternity and Child Welfare. The district is served by 11 District Nurse/Midwives, many of whom are also qualified Health Visitors. The area between Cromer and Sheringham also enjoys the services of a full time Health Visitor. Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the following places: -

<u>Centre.</u>	<u>Date held.</u>
Banningham. (Parish Room)	1st Tuesday in month.
Edgefield. (Parish Hall)	Last " " "
Gresham. (Assembly Room)	2nd Monday in month.
Mundesley. (Church Room)	Last Tuesday in month.
Southrepps. (The Rectory)	2nd Wednesday in month.
Northrepps. (Church Rooms)	2nd Friday in month.
Roughton. (Village Hall)	Last Thursday in month.
Cromer.	1st and 3rd Thursday in month.
Sheringham.	1st and 3rd Tuesday in month.
Matlaske.	Last Thursday in month.
Holt.	2nd Tuesday in month.

The Clinics at Cromer and Sheringham are attended by the Medical Officer and those at Matlaske and Mundesley are attended as required.

All children under 5 years of age are visited regularly in their homes by the Health Visitor who takes over from the midwife when the baby is two weeks old. Children of 5 years and over come under the supervision of the School Nurse.

Vaccination and Immunisation. This is carried out by the Assistant County Medical Officer and by the General Practitioners. Sessions for vaccination and immunisation against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis are arranged at Clinics, Schools and General Practitioners' surgeries.

School Medical Service. This takes up a considerable amount of time as every one of the 28 Schools in the area is visited annually and on these occasions a full examination of all children in the appropriate age group is carried out. They are seen during their first year at school, at 10 years of age and before leaving; if any defects are discovered they are referred for treatment or investigation. Children in whom there is thought to be a need for supervision are seen every year. Apart from the routine visits, many special visits to Schools are made for such purpose as immunisation, mental ascertainment, examination when transport to School is believed necessary, and so on. The vision of all pupils is tested at 8 years of age as a routine.

General Welfare. These services are administered in the district by the Local Welfare Officer who is in attendance and available for interview at: -

Cromer: Local Health Office. 9 to 10 a.m. daily.

Sheringham: Sheringham U.D.C. Offices. 2 - 2.30 p.m. Tuesday.

Holt: Shirehall, Tower Street. 11 a.m. - 12 noon Friday.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to the District Health, Works & Plans Committee of the Council for their interest and support, to Mr. Evatt and Mr. Pratt for their invaluable help and to the office staff for their co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

P. G. HOLT.

M.B..Ch.B. D.P.H.

June, 1960.

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THE REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

HOUSING - SLUM CLEARANCE.

A scheme for providing 16 dwellings - Aldborough 4, Gimingham 6 and Holt 6 - has been in progress and those at Aldborough and Holt were completed during the year.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Many useful improvements have been carried out since the Council's decision to operate the scheme.

The position at the end of 1959 was that 31 applications were approved during the year, making a total of 153. 37 were completed during the year and the total completed to the end of 1959 was 137.

Standard Grants became available and grants in respect of 16 properties were approved and 2 completed.

WATER SUPPLIES.

In 1959 the Council introduced their own mains supply at High Kelling to supersede a private supply which had presented many difficulties for some years.

In the Council's scheme for the provision of mains water to the whole of the district tenders were accepted for the mains in the eastern area to supply Antingham, Colby, Ingworth, Southrepps, Suffield and Thorpe Market. Much of the preparatory work for the western area was completed during 1959.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

A village scheme at Aldborough was completed during the year and most of the laying of sewers in the Northrepps Village Scheme was carried out.

Tenders were accepted for the Cley Village Scheme and it is hoped to commence work early in the new year and the extensions at Holt completed.

SEA OUTFALL.

The works of the renewal and extension at West Runton and Overstrand were commenced.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	347
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	241
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	143
Summonses taken out	...	...	...	...	...	-
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	12
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	3
Houses connected with the sewer	...	...	...	...	...	123
Houses connected with the water mains..	...	...	...	...	...	201
Improvements to sanitary conveniences..	...	...	...	...	...	60
Samples of water taken for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	18
Houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	15
Food Hygiene inspections...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Holiday Camp inspections...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Ice Cream samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	14
	"	II	...	...	...	3
	"	III	...	...	...	-
	"	IV	...	...	...	-

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART.

	Cattle ex. cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number killed (if known)	310	8	-	254	319	-
Number inspected	244	8	-	254	248	-
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci - whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcasses of which some part was condemned.	78	-	-	-	-	-
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	31.55	-	-	-	.40	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	5	-
% of the number inspected with tuberculosis	.8	-	-	-	2.0	-
<u>Cysticercosis:</u> Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

The undermentioned foodstuffs have been condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year, namely: -

Animal carcasses and organs		13 cwt.
Tinned meats		59 lbs.
Tinned fish		1½ lbs.
Tinned fruit		62½ lbs.
Tinned vegetables		8 lbs.
Tinned soups		-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors): -

Premises	Number on Register.	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecut- ed.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	5	5	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	62	32	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).....	-			
Total	67	37	1	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found:

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2).....					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).....					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).....					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).....					
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7)					
(a) Insufficient.....					
(b) Unsuitable or defective.....	1	1		1	
(c) Not separate for sexes.....					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).....					
Total	1	1		1	

PART VIII OF THE ACT. OUTWORK.
SECTIONS 110 and 111.

No Outworkers - Nil Return.

GORDON L. EVATT, M.A.P.H.I..F.F.A.S..
Surveyor, Housing Architect and
Senior Public Health Inspector.

